(1)

CLARE RURAL DISTRICT

in the

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY OF WEST SUFFOLK

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year

1970

R

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

Acting Medical Officer of Health for the Rural District of Clare, in the County of West Suffolk, for the year ended 31st December, 1970

Telephone :- Clare 421
and
Bury St. Edmunds 63141

Public Health Department,
Severals House,
Newmarket.

17th September, 1971.

To the Chairman and Members of
the Clare Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman and Members,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Acting Medical Officer of Health of your district for the year ended 31st December, 1970.

The estimated population of 10,600 differs in no significant amount from the previous year of 10,550. The live birth rate as recorded of 12.8 which after correction for composition of the population produces a rate of 14.3. This compares with the corresponding rate of 16.0 for England and Wales. The current death rate of 13.0 has been adjusted to 10.7 which takes into account the age and sex distribution of the community and compares favourably with that of 11.7 for the country as a whole. The infant mortality rate of 15 compares favourably with that of 18 for England and Wales.

The incidence of notifiable infectious diseases was at a very low ebb there being 31 cases as compared with 108 in the previous year. Any other outbreaks of bacterial food poisoning accounted for 13 of the notifications and in dealing with this particularly troublesome type of infection the Public Health Inspectors have played a very important part in keeping the cases under surveillance and the checking up on contacts.

I am again obliged for the work in preparing this statistical data for the district to Mrs. C.A. Blyth, the Public Health Clerk in the office at Newmarket. In addition, my personal thanks are due to the Rural District Council's staff for the continued effort they make in maintaining and supervising the high standard of sanitation in the Council's area.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

D.A. McCRACKEN

Acting Medical Officer of Health

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

ACTING MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

D.A. McCracken, M.D., D.P.H.

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Mr. H.A. Smith, M.I.P.H.E., F.I.A.S., M.R.S.H.,
who also holds the office of Engineer and Surveyor

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Mr. W.J. Black, M.A.P.H.I.,
who also serves as Building Inspector

MEAT INSPECTION

A Senior Meat Inspector together with six "authorised officers" are appointed to carry out meat inspection duties at the Little Wratting Abattoir.

GENERAL STATISTICS

(Figures in brackets throughout the report relate to the previous year)

Area of the District	(49,360 acres)	49,360 acres
Number of Parishes	(24)	24
Rateable Value	(£259,930)	£260,150
Sum represented by Penny Rate	(1,043)	£1,043
Number of dwellings	(3661)	3761
Population Census 1961	- 8815	-
Population Registrar's Estimate	(June 1969 10,550)	June 1970 10,600

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EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

(as supplied by the General Register Office)

LIVE BIRTHS	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	55	76	131
Illegitimate	3	2	5
Total	58	78	136

Live birth rate per 1,000 population	12.8
Corrected birth rate (Comp. factor 1.12)	14.3
Live birth rate per 1,000 population (England & Wales)	16.0
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	4

STILL BIRTHS	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	1	1	2

Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	14
" " " " " " " " (Eng. & Wales) ..	13

TOTAL LIVE AND STILLBIRTHS	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	56	77	133
Illegitimate	3	2	5
Total	59	79	138

DEATHS	Male	Female	Total
	68	70	138

Death rate per 1,000 population	13.0
Corrected death rate (Comp. factor .84)	10.9
Death rate per 1,000 population (England and Wales)	11.7

INFANT MORTALITY - Deaths of infants under one year of age

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	1	1	2

INFANT MORTALITY RATES

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	15
" " " " " " " " (England & Wales)	18
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legit. live births	15
Illegitimate " " " " illegit. " "	-

NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE

Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births	15

EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE

Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births	15

PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE

Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	29

RATES FOR PREVIOUS YEARS	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Adjusted birth rates	16.4	16.5	20.4	20.2	20.4	18.1	17.4	14.3
Adjusted death rates	10.3	10.4	11.2	8.2	9.6	8.6	9.1	10.9

CAUSES OF DEATH

Disease	Male	Female
Late effects of respiratory T.B.	1	-
Malignant neoplasm, buccal cavity etc.	3	2
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	-
Malignant neoplasm, intestine	1	3
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	4	2
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, prostate	2	-
Other malignant neoplasms	3	2
Diabeset mellitus	1	1
Anaemias	1	-
Other diseases of nervous system	-	1
Hypertensive disease	2	-
Ischaemic heart disease	12	17
Other forms of heart disease	4	7
Cerebrovascular disease	6	13
Other diseases of circulatory system	2	3
Influenza	2	1
Pneumonia	7	6
Bronchitis and emphysema	5	1
Other diseases of respiratory system	-	1
Peptic ulcer	2	-
Other diseases of digestive system	-	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	-
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-
Other diseases, genito-urinary system	1	-
Other causes of perinatal mortality	1	1
Symptons and ill-defined conditions	-	1
Motor vehicle accidents	3	1
All other accidents	-	1
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	-	2
	68	70
1969	59	49

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

	Male	Female	Total
Measles	7	3	10
Whooping Cough	-	1	1
Scarlet Fever	2	3	5
Food Poisoning	1	1	2
Sonne Dysentery	1	9	10
Salmonella Infections	3	-	3
	14	17	31

TUBERCULOSIS

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Total
1. Cases at commencement 1970	2	3	-	1	6
2. First notified during 1970	-	-	-	-	-
3. Restored to Register	-	-	-	-	-
4. Added by Transfers	-	-	-	-	-
5. Cases removed from Register	-	-	-	-	-
6. Remaining at 31.12.70	2	3	-	1	6

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY YOUR SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

A. WATER SUPPLY

Mains water is supplied to your area by The West Suffolk Water Board. The water has been satisfactory in quality and quantity.

The number of standpipe supplies is relatively small and it is estimated that 95 per cent of houses have mains water.

B. SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The Village of Poslingford was provided with a foul water sewer towards the end of the year, making a total of 16 of your 24 villages now provided with sewers. Further village sewerage schemes are in progress or to start in the new year at Barnardiston, Cowlinge and Stansfield. Schemes are being prepared for Hawkedon, Stradishall and Little Wratting villages.

The Clare disposal works are being enlarged and sewers extended in the parish of Wickhambrook to serve the areas of Clopton and Wickham Street.

C. CLEANSING AND REFUSE DISPOSAL

An agreement with the Haverhill U.D.C. has permitted the bulk of your refuse to be accepted at their new pulverisation plant. Your old quarry at Kedington is still open for some tipping and for district residents to dump their rubbish also. A tip at Denston is in use receiving refuse from that part of your area but is is rapidly filling up and could be soiled over and returned to agriculture within a few years. The roadside quarry dump at Cropley Grove, Ousden has been earth filled and returned to the adjoining land owner.

A refuse kerbside bin collection takes place weekly. Some trade refuse is collected in Clare and a waste paper collection continues throughout the area.

Septic tanks on Council house sites where main drainage is not available, are cleared by Contractors, as are similar tanks at private dwellings under a subsidised clearance scheme.

D. HOUSING

A considerable number of houses continue to be improved both with and without grant aid. Housing complaints of lack of amenities, repairs and such have been investigated, and owners co-operation in remedying defects has been good. No statutory notices under the Public Health or Housing Acts have been served.

New dwellings continue to be built, largely in estate formation by private enterprise, whilst the Council are erecting two bedroomed bungalows for letting as need arises in small numbers and in several villages.

There are no Common Lodging houses in the area.

A small number of individual caravans are controlled by an annual Planning Consent. There are no site licenses in operation.

One or two gipsy caravans arrive in your area for a few days at irregular intervals only.

E. PET SHOPS

There are none in the area

ANIMAL BOARDING KENNELS

Only one is registered

NOISE ABATEMENT

No statutory action was called for

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

No formal action was necessary

OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT

The number of premises registered under the Act is 33. Contraventions in relation to cleanliness, temperature and such were remedied.

PETROLEUM SPIRIT STORAGE

There are 71 licensed petrol storage installations in your area.

F. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Inspections reveal that a reasonably good standard of hygiene is being maintained at premises offering food for sale and also in mobile vehicles. Any faults lie in the absence of efficient washing facilities and identification of vans.

There is no ice cream manufactured in the area and shops selling prepacked ice cream are registered to do so.

The one licensed slaughterhouse in your area is at The Little Wratting Abattoir where extensive enlargements are in progress. The premises are also licensed to carry on the process of blood drying, fat melting, rendering and gut scraping.

A licensed knackers yard exists at Chilton . near Clare. No animals are slaughtered on these premises.

Licensed slaughtermen number 44.

378,915 pigs were killed and inspected in the whole area during the year. 956 whole carcases were condemned for disease other than tuberculosis. About 251 tons of meat offal was unfit for human food.

There are no poultry processing premises in the area.

G. FACTORIES ACT 1961

Inspections

Part 1 of the Act

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	1	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	26	18	-	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	9	6	1	-
Total	36	25	1	-

2. Cases in which defects were found 3

3. Outwork (Sections 133 and 134)

No. of Outworkers :-

Making of wearing apparel	- 6
Manufacturing Drapery	- 2
Firework base assembly	- 11

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